

Docket No. 271114US3PCT

JC10 Rec'd PCT/P 20 JUL 2005 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Shinichi INABA, et al

SERIAL NO: 10/532,109

FILED: April 21, 2005

FOR: SELF-SUPPORTING BAG

GAU:

EXAMINER:

MAIL STOP PCT



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

C. Irvin McClelland

Registration No. 21,124

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 271114US3PCT		SERIAL NO. 10/532,109	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Shinichi INABA, et al.			
				FILING DATE April 21, 2005		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	AA	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AM	11-130031	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AN	11-130112	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AO	11-130082	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AP	11-130138	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AQ	11-130073	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AR	11-130074	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AS	11-130034	05/18/99	JP			NO
	AT	2001-72030	03/21/01	JP			NO
	AU	2001-114284	04/24/01	JP			NO
	AV	2001-114307	04/24/01	JP			NO
	AW	2001-315743	11/13/01	JP			NO
	AX	2001-315742	11/13/01	JP			NO
	AY	2003-291934	10/15/03	JP			NO
	AZ	2001-106217	04/17/01	JP			NO
	AAA	4-163124	06/08/92	JP			NO
	AAB	2000-334814	12/05/00	JP			NO
	AAC	6-127562	05/10/94	JP			NO
	AAD	6-6215	01/25/94	JP			NO
	AAE	5-46717	06/22/93	JP			NO
	AAF	59-193107	12/21/84	JP			NO
					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached		
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

- 1) References _____ have been cited in the International Search Report. Copies of these references are being submitted herewith only when not automatically provided by the International Searching Authority.
- 2) References _____ have been cited in the corresponding _____ Search Report. A copy of these references is being submitted herewith.
- 3) References _____ are discussed in the specification. A copy of these references is being submitted here with.
- 4) References AM-AAF are additional prior art known to Applicant. A copy of these references is being submitted herewith.

AM JP 11-130031

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130031 discloses a simple disposable container made of synthetic resin which can be easily squashed for disposal in which

a bottle-shaped bag container having a relatively large cylindrical filling port at an upper end of a body is provided by blow molding, the filling port with contents filled is sealed, a relatively small ejection port closed so that it can be cut and opened is secondarily formed together with the sealing, and a plug to be detachably fitted into the cut and opened ejection port is attached to the bag container.

AN JP 11-130112

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130112 discloses an easily crush-disposable simple throw away container made of synthetic resin in which

a bottle-shaped thin container body with a cylindrical filling port which is used only for filling contents and is sealed after filling, protruding from an upper end of a body for receiving contents is provided, wherein an ejection port to be broken and opened is made to protrude from a shoulder of the body, and a tab for breaking and opening is connected with a tip of the ejection port.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AO JP 11-130082

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130082 discloses an easily squash-disposable simple throw away in which

in a thin container body in a bottle shape made by blow molding for instance of polyolefin synthetic resin, contents are poured through a mouth part in a way similar to that applied to ordinary bottles, and the mouth part is pressed from both sides and sealed by fusing in a straight line after filling by means of heat sealing, ultrasonic welding or the like. With the mouth part opened, being cut by scissors or the like, and with a pair of U-shaped erectable fellable pieces, namely a handle, on the right and the left raised, the contents can be poured out through the mouth part by appropriately tilting the thin container body with the handle held. In keeping the remaining contents for storage after pouring, the thin container body is erected and placed on a floor, a shelf or the like with its mouth part closed with a stopper or the like.

AP 11-130138

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130138 discloses a thin synthetic resin container in which

a parallelopiped body comprises upper parts of both right and left side walls to be inward folds having a gap between inner ends at the fold, wherein the folds and both right and left parts of both front and rear side walls are fixed together to provide first plate-like seals. Both front and rear side wall parts in the gap are made to be a semi-cylindrical parts extending outward oppositely to each other to provide a second plate-like seal of a shape formed with a filling cylinder comprising both semi-cylindrical parts. Sealing of an upper part of the filling cylinder by formation of the second plate-like seal can be extremely easily done by using an appropriate device, to have a container completed. After a consumer purchases the container, an upper end of the filling cylinder can be cut to open and content liquid can be taken out of an opening.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AQ JP 11-130073

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130073 discloses a refilling liquid storing container in which

in this refilling liquid storing container, a body is formed into a bellows shape so that it can be extended and retracted, and an upper end of a neck standing from an upper end of the body via a shoulder is crushed into a plane shape and sealed by welding as a sealed part. Both ends of the sealed part are formed into a suspended state along an outer face of the neck, and both sides of the neck are crushed into a plane shape to form welded plate-like portions, thereby making a diameter of the neck small. Further, notches may be provided at opposed positions of these plate-like portions, and a thin-walled break line may be provided around the portion of the neck between both the notches.

AR JP 11-130074

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130074 discloses a thin-walled container containing refilling liquid in which

this container made of a synthetic resin has a liquid pouring cylinder serving also as an air inlet port, which is projected rearward from an intermediate portion of a rear wall of a body of the container, and is made by blow molding of top surface closure. A rear part of the pouring cylinder is crushed into a plane shape to form a sealed part by welding, and vertically elongated first recesses are provided at rear parts of both right and left walls of the body on both sides of the rear wall portion having the pouring cylinder. A holding part is formed with side wall portions at the rear parts of these first recesses and a rear wall portion between these both side wall portions. Further, a nozzle forming cylinder, whose front side is closed, is projected forward from an upper part of a front wall of the body.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109

Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AS JP 11-130034

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 11-130034 discloses a label-reinforced thin container made of synthetic resin in which in the container whose peripheral wall with a cross-section having a narrow and long shape toward the front and rear is closed at the bottom and whose mouth-neck part is extended in an upright position from the upper end of the peripheral wall via shoulders, labels are attached to the entire external faces of both right and left side-walls of the thin peripheral wall by insert molding. The upper end of the mouth-neck part may be closed by superimposing one part of it with the other and by welding them under heat and, at the sue time, a discharging tube whose front-end face is closed may be provided such that it projects toward the front or rear from the external face of the front or rear of the peripheral wall of the mouth-neck part.

AT JP 2001-72030

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-072030 discloses an easily foldable hollow container in which

there is provided a liquid storing hollow container constituted by a main body of a hollow container having an opening neck part, a shoulder part, a barrel part and a bottom part formed by blow molding thermoplastic synthetic resin and having a lid threadably fitted to the opening neck part. The main body of the hollow container has at its both sidewall surfaces an inverse Y-shaped folding line folded at a ridge from its upper end to its lower end, at its bottom wall surface a folding line at a valley part formed like a linear line toward both branch points of inverse Y-shaped form of its central part. Further, the bottom wall is provided with an engaging means engaged with the bottom wall forded into two segments and then the hollow container is formed in such a way that it can be crushed flat.

AU JP 2001-114284

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-114284 discloses a super thin-walled container in which

in the container provided with a spout to communicate with a container body and formed of a super thin-walled member, a bellows-like return part which can return the container body itself by pressing the container body at least in one direction and keep it in a flat condition is provided on the container body.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AV JP 2001-114307

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-114307 discloses a tubular container and primary mold therefore in which

a primary mold for tubular container is made up in a structure wherein a shoulder part elastically turnable and deformative easily toward the inside of a trunk is provided, projecting upward at the upper end of the trunk formed in a tapered tubular shape gradually reducing diametrically toward the upside while being open at its bottom, and a mouth for forming in opening a spout by cutting a part thereof is connected to the upper end of the shoulder part while a horizontal rib formed being depressed toward the inside is provided round the upper part of the trunk, and a tubular container is made up with a sealed part formed by applying welding to the bottom of the trunk part so as to make the bottom flat.

AW JP 2001-315743

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-315743 discloses a blow molded bottle body made of synthetic resin in which

a blow molded bottle body made of a synthetic resin is constituted by providing the ring piece developable in a ring shape to the pinch-off part of the bottom part of the bottle body along a parting line in a form crushed flatly up and down so as not to protrude from the leg part of the bottle body. The ring piece developing a hooking function in a state ensuring the stable seating function of the bottle body can be integrally provided to the bottom part of the bottle body by blow molding and the bottle body can be displayed in either one of an erected posture and a hanging posture.

AX JP 2001-315742

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-315742 discloses a blow molded bottle body made of synthetic resin in which

the ring piece capable of being developed into a ring shape in a flat form is attached to the pinch-off part of one of the neck part and shoulder part of the bottle body and a hook piece with which the ring piece is hooked is provided to the pinch-off part of the bottom part in height not protruding from a leg part and a barrel part is made thin-walled to a degree capable of easily crushing and deforming the barrel part and the volume reducing posture of the barrel part is achieved only by the hooking of the freely bendable and deformable of the ring piece with the hook piece, and the ring piece and the hook piece are molded by the mold clamping operation of the blow mold.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AY JP 2003-291934

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2003-291934 discloses a refill liquid storage container in which

a guide plate projects from at least one of the shoulders, left and right, of a first mouth neck with a narrow space left from a corresponding side of the first mouth neck. A peripheral wall of a second mouth neck of a container to be refilled can be fitted in the narrow space, and also the first mouth neck can be fitted in the second mouth neck.

AZ JP 2001-106217

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2001-106217 discloses a blow molded bottle for viscous liquid in which

a thermoplastic resin direct blow molded bottle is formed thin enough to be deformed and reduce capacity by pressure reduction in the bottle owing to suction and discharge of contents. A deformation guide line is formed at a place where deformation by pressure reduction in the bottle owing to the suction and discharge of contents takes place.

AAA JP 4-163124

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 4-163124 discloses a preparation of blow bag in which

the pressing surface of a press jig is formed so as to have a flat surface smaller than the projection surface of the body part of a container and narrower than a body part but larger than a printing part. A blow bag whose body part has a flat cross-sectional shape formed by the blow molding of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride or a thermoplastic elastomer having the bending modulus of elasticity of 500-10000kg/cm² is allowed to correspond so that the body part is opposed to the pressing jig and a hanging jig is fixed to a hanging jig fixing part and a mouth part is fixed to a mouth part fixing part. When the pressing jig is pushed in this state, the air in the container is discharged from the mouth part fixing part and the body part of the container becomes such a state that the opposed walls thereof come into close contact with each other. Then, a transfer roll is pressed to the surface of the body part under rotation to apply printing to the body part.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AAB JP 2000-334814

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2000-334814 discloses a blow-molded container having pulse preventing port part and its molding method in which

in a blow-molded container having a pulse preventing port and its molding method, in an opening part which is a discharge opening for liquid packed in the container, a partition plate is formed to bridge the opening of the opening part, and blow molding is done to divide the opening into the discharge opening and an air introduction hole by the partition plate.

AAC JP 6-127562

Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. HEI 6-127562 discloses a liquid containing bag in which

when a bag made of synthetic resin for housing inside liquid such as cleaning solution is stood, a liquid outlet port and an air port are formed to protrude on a part of a heat sealed part at the upper end of the bag. When the heat sealed part at the upper end of the bag is cut across the liquid outlet port and the air port to put the liquid into a refill container, liquid flowing out of the liquid outlet port is substituted by air entering from the air port, so that inner faces at the liquid outlet port may not be attached to each other but the liquid in the bag can be taken out to the end while a stable flow is maintained.

AAD JP 6-6215

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid-open No. HEI 6-6215 discloses a synthetic resin bottle in which

folding lines are provided at the designated positions of a cylindrical body portion so that the body portion can be folded to flat plate shape.

U.S. PCT Application Serial No.: 10/532,109
Docket No.: 271114US3PCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

AAE JP 5-46717

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid-open No. HEI 5-46717 discloses a foldable blow-formed bottle which contains;

a shoulder portion provided with an opening, a body portion, a bottom portion, and leg portions connecting to the bottom portion and having grounding surfaces on the down below and at the both end portions,

the front surface and the back surface of the body portion having symmetrical smooth arcs,

almost flat wall surfaces formed on the both side surfaces, continuing from the shoulder portion, provided with folding lines on its center in up and down direction, and

a boundary between the shoulder portion and the body portion formed by a boundary line that is a half circler shape at its upper portion and a perpendicular line continuing to the half circle shape at its lower portion,

wherein, a label indication is done by in-mold labeling on the front surface and/or the back surface of the body portion.

The folding lines are better to be formed as ribs protruding to the outside.

AAF JP 59-193107

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid-open No. SHO 59-193107 discloses a container for packing which contains;

a shoulder portion expanding in the manner to be able to cave in, being connected to the upper end of a body portion,

a neck-like opening portion provided in the center of the shoulder portion,

a cap provided at the neck-like opening to be able to put on or took off, and

appropriate folding lines provided at the lower end portions of the body portion to be folded to connect with the folding lines, so as to form a bottom portion.